



## New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

Manual:	CP&P	Child Protection and Permanency	Effective Date:
Volume:	V	Health Services	
Chapter:	A	Health Services	6-17-2013
Subchapter:	3	Medicaid	
Issuance:	500	<b>Medicaid Extension for Young Adults (MEYA), Also Known as Chafee Medicaid</b>	

### Introduction 6-17-2013

The Family Care Health Coverage Act, signed into law on July 13, 2000, provides access to free or low-cost health care insurance for low to moderate income, uninsured adults. This program builds on New Jersey's long-standing commitment to assure access to quality health care for State residents.

The law provides a special Medicaid extension to a youth, 18 through 20 years of age, in a CP&P placement under the care and custody of CP&P on his or her 18th birthday and whose maintenance is paid in whole or in part from public funds. This includes the youth who leaves placement before 21 years of age but after 18 years of age. Extending health care coverage to this population is made possible as a result of the implementation of the John Chafee Foster Care Independence Program at the Federal level.

### Definitions 6-17-2013

"CP&P out-of-home placement" refers to an in-state or out-of-state placement made by CP&P which includes resource family care, independent living, shelter, group home, and residential placement. For the purpose of this policy, a CP&P out-of-home placement does not include placement in a Juvenile Justice Commission facility, placement with adoption subsidy, or kinship legal guardianship subsidy.

"Chafee Local Office (LO)" refers to an LO that exists electronically in NJ SPIRIT.

"Chafee Medicaid," also known as the Medicaid Extension for Young Adults (MEYA), refers to the type of Medicaid extension coverage for a youth 18 through 20 years of age in a CP&P out-of-home placement on his or her 18th birthday. To be eligible, the youth does not need to remain in a CP&P placement.

"Chafee participant" refers to a youth who meets eligibility criteria.

### Eligibility 6-17-2013

Chafee Medicaid extends medical coverage to a youth who meets the following criteria:

- Is a New Jersey resident;
- Is in a CP&P placement under the care and custody of CP&P on his or her 18th birthday; and
- Whose maintenance is paid in whole or in part from public funds.

The youth's income or resources are not factors to consider when determining eligibility.

For the purpose of this policy, refer a youth to the Chafee Coordinator in Central Office who:

- Is in placement and is in runaway status.
- Is a New Jersey resident in an out-of-state placement at age 18, returns to New Jersey and who may be eligible for the Medicaid

Please note that a special review is needed for youth who may be SSI eligible, are pregnant, are parents or are currently participating in another Medicaid program. Refer youth who do not meet eligibility criteria to the local board of social services to inquire about other Medicaid programs.

### **Ineligibility                      6-17-2013**

A recipient of Chafee Medicaid is deemed ineligible for continuation of coverage if the recipient:

- Dies;
- Changes his or her legal residency to another state. (If the youth returns to New Jersey before age 21, he or she may be eligible and should be referred to the Chafee Coordinator);
- Becomes incarcerated; or
- Reaches 21 years of age. He or she is automatically terminated at the end of the month that he or she turns 21.

### **Determination of Eligibility                      6-17-2013**

All determinations are made through a referral to the Chafee Coordinator (1-888-235-4766). Referrals can only be processed on or after the youth's 18th birthday.

### **LO Responsibility 6-17-2013**

Refer any youth between the ages of 18 - 20 who leaves an out-of-home placement on or after his or her 18th birthday and is no longer eligible for Medicaid through the LO to the Chafee Coordinator. Youth in continued out-of-home placement or who receive the independent living stipend are eligible for Medicaid through the LO.

**Responsibility of the Chafee Coordinator      6-17-2013**

Review referred cases for eligibility criteria.

If eligible, update NJ SPIRIT as appropriate.

**Chafee Medicaid      6-17-2013**

If eligible, the Chafee Coordinator activates Medicaid and updates NJ SPIRIT as appropriate.

**Chafee Toll Free Line (1-888-235-4766)      6-17-2013**

The telephone is managed by the Chafee Coordinator in Central Office to serve as a contact between the Division and the Chafee participant.